



NEWS RELEASE

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TMA PRESENTS PUBLIC SERVICE AND CONSERVATIONIST AWARDS

When: October 30, 2010, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Where: Columbus Park, Ramada 4 by Silverbell Lake

What: Presentation of Public Service of the Year Award to Regina Romero,
Council Member, Ward 1, and Karin Uhlich, Council Member, Ward 3,
and Conservationist of the Year Award to Roger Carpenter

BACKGROUND

The Tucson Mountains Association is the oldest resident organization in the State of Arizona. It represents 10,000 residents on the west side of Tucson. TMA recognizes major contributions to the community at its annual meeting. Awards include volunteer recognition, sponsors, public servant of the year, and conservationist of the year.

AWARDS

TMA is recognizing Council Member Regina Romero for her outstanding service to the west side. She has listened to community concerns and feedback, and represented the interests of residents on many issues. Of particular importance has been her sound and reasoned support for the preservation of Painted Hills. She has advocated for this land to be preserved as open space, and presented many compelling reasons for this action. Ms. Romero was one of the principal supporters of the motion to have Pima County work with the City on a land exchange and/or purchase to preserve the 287 acres that make up Painted Hills.

Karin Urlich was one of the key Council members involved in the effort to create the Joint Water and Wastewater Committee. The Committee issued valuable reports to help guide future water policy decisions in metropolitan Tucson. Ms. Urlich supported the adoption of the Phase 2 Report. The newly formulated water policy for metropolitan Tucson is clearly related to her efforts. She also demonstrated leadership this year regarding the preservation of Painted Hills. In addition, she championed many conservation related matters and ensured open public discussion related to these issues during her tenure on the City Council.

Roger Carpenter will receive the Conservationist of the Year Award. He is the former President of the Gates Pass Area Neighborhood Association. Roger has worked tirelessly on conservation efforts, coordinated community input related to the placement of cell towers, and served as a community leader related to the preservation of Painted Hills. Last year, Carolyn Campbell with the Coalition for Sonoran Desert Protection, received this award.